REMARKS

This application is a continuation under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) of prior application Serial No. 09/686,373 and is filed in lieu of a Brief on Appeal due June 7, 2003, pursuant to the Notice of Appeal filed April 7, 2003, in said prior application. The period for filing the Brief on Appeal is extended four (4) months to October 7, 2003, pursuant to the accompanying Petition for Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a). The instant continuation is therefore timely filed.

The specification is amended to insert a cross-reference to prior copending application Serial No. 09/686,373 and application Serial No. 09/202,241 which was filed as a 35 U.S.C. 371 application corresponding to PCT/FR97/01048.

The claims are amended to correspond essentially to the claims of prior application Serial No. 09/686,373 as amended by the preliminary amendment filed October 11, 2000 in said application wherein Claims 1-21 were amended to place them in appropriate U.S. claim format; Claims 4-12, 16, and 20 were amended to eliminate multiple dependencies, claims 22-24 were cancelled and new Claims 25-29 were added.

The application as presently amended contains claims 1-21 and 25-29.

Respectfully submitted,

10/2/03
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